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The TATLER.

By *Iſaac Bickerſtaff* Eſq;

From *Thurſday December* 7. to *Saturday December* 9. 1710.

From my own Apartment, December 8.

IT is the Duty of all who make Philoſophy the Entertainment of their Lives, to turn their Thoughts to practical Schemes for the Good of Society, and not paſs away their Time in fruitleſs Searches, which tend rather to the Oſtentation of Knowledge than the Service of Life. For this Reaſon I cannot forbear reading even the common Bills that are Daily put into People's Hands as they paſs the Streets, which give us Notice of the preſent Reſidence, the paſt Travels, and infallible Medicines of Doctors, uſeful in their Generation, though much below the Character of the renowned *Talicotius*: But upon a nice Calculation of the Succeſſes of ſuch Adepts, I find their Labours tend moſtly to the enriching only one Sort of Men, that is to ſay, the Society of Upholders. From this Obſervation, and many other which occur to me when I am numbering the good People of *Great Britain*, I cannot but favour any Propoſal which tends to repairing the Loſſes we ſuſtain by *eminent Cures*. The beſt I have met with in this Kind has been offered to my Conſideration, and recommended by a Letter, ſubſcribed *Thomas Clement*. The Title to his printed Articles runs thus: *By the Profitable Society at the* Wheat-Sheaf *over-againſt* Tom's Coffee-houſe *in* Ruſſel-Street, Covent-Garden, *new Propoſals for promoting a Contribution towards raiſing Two Hundred and Fifty Pounds to be paid on the Baptizing of any Infant born in Wedlock.* The Plan is laid with ſuch proper Regulations, as ſerves (to ſuch as fall in with it for the Sake of their Poſterity) all the Uſes, without any of the Inconveniencies of Settlements. By this Means, ſuch whoſe Fortunes depend upon their own Induſtry or perſonal Qualifications, need not be deterred by Fear of Poverty from that State which Nature and Reaſon preſcribe to us as the Fountain of the greateſt Happineſs in Human Life. The Cenſors of *Rome* had Power veſted in them to lay Taxes on the unmarried; and I think I cannot ſhow my Impartiality better than in enquiring into the extravagant Privileges my Brother Batchelors enjoy, and fine them accordingly. I ſhall not allow a ſingle Life in one Sex to be reproached, and held in Eſteem in the other. It would not, methinks, be amiſs, if an old Batchelor, who lives in Contempt of Matrimony, were obliged to give a Portion to an old Maid who is willing to enter into it. At the ſame Time I muſt allow, that thoſe who can plead Courtſhip, and were unjuſtly rejected, ſhall not be liable to the Pains and Penalties of Celibacy. But ſuch as pretend an Averſion to the whole Sex, becauſe they were ill treated by a particular Female, and cover their Senſe of Diſappointment in Women under a Contempt of their Favour, ſhall be proceeded againſt as Batchelors Convict. I am not without Hopes, that from this ſlight Warning, all the unmarried Men of Fortune, Taſt, and Refinement, will, without further Delay, become Lovers and humble Servants to ſuch of their Acquaintance as are moſt agreeable to them, under Pain of my Cenſures: And it is to be hoped, the reſt of the World, who remain ſingle for fear of the Incumbrances of Wedlock, will become Subſcribers to Mr. *Clement*'s Propoſal. By theſe Means we ſhall have a much more numerous Account of Births in the Year 1711, than any ever before known in *Great Britain*, where meerly to be born is a Diſtinction of Providence, greater than being born to a Fortune in another Place.

As I was going on in the Conſideration of this good Office which Mr. *Clement* propoſes to do his Country, I received the following Letter, which ſeems to be dictated by a like modeſt and publick Spirit, that makes Uſe of me alſo in its Deſign of obliging Mankind.

Mr. *Bickerſtaff*,

'IN the Royal Lottery for a Million and an half, I had the good Fortune of obtaining a Prize. From before the Drawing I had devoted a Fifth of whatever ſhould ariſe to me to Charitable Uſes. Accordingly I lately troubled you with my Requeſt and Commiſſion for placing half a Dozen Youths with Mr. *More*, Writing-Maſter in *Caſtle-ſtreet*, to whom, it is ſaid, we owe all the fine Devices, Flouriſhes, and the Compoſure of all the Plates, for the Drawing and paying the Tickets. Be pleaſed therefore, good Sir, to find or make Leiſure for complying therewith; for I would not appear concerned in this ſmall Matter. I am

Very much your humble Servant, &c.

It is no ſmall Pleaſure to obſerve, that in the midſt of a very degenerate Age, there are ſtill Spirits which retain their natural Dignity, and purſue the Good of their Fellow-Creatures: Some in making

king themſelves uſeful by profeſſed Service, ſome by ſecret Generoſity. Were I at Liberty to diſcover even all the Good I know of many Men living at this Time, there would want nothing but a ſuitable Hiſtorian to make them appear as illuſtrious as any of the nobleſt of the old *Greeks* or *Romans*. The Cunning ſome have uſed to do handſome and worthy Actions, the Addreſs to do Men Services, and eſcape their Notice, has produced ſo many ſurprizing Incidents, (which have been laid before me during my Cenſorſhip) as, in the Opinion of Poſterity, would abſolve this Age of all its Crimes and Follies. I know no Way to deal with ſuch delicate Minds as theſe, but by aſſuring them, that when they ceaſe to do Good, I ſhall tell all the Good they have done already. Let therefore the Benefactor to the Youths abovementioned continue ſuch Bounties, upon Pain of being publickly praiſed. But there is no Probability of his running into that Hazard; for a ſtrong Habit of Virtue can make Men ſuſpend the receiving Acknowledgments due to their Merit, till they are out of a Capacity of receiving them. I am ſo very much charmed with Accidents of this Kind, that I have made a Collection of all the memorable handſome Things done by private Men in my Time. As a Specimen of my Manner of noting ſuch Actions, take the following Fragment, out of much more which is written in my Year-Book on the remarkable Will of a Gentleman, whom I ſhall here call *Celamico*.

'This Day died that plain and excellent Man, 'my much honoured Friend *Celamico*, who be-'queathed his whole Eſtate to a Gentleman no 'Way related to him, and to whom he had given 'no ſuch Expectation in his Life-Time.

He was a Perſon of a very enlarged Soul, and thought the neareſt Relation among Men to be the Reſemblance of their Minds and Sentiments. He was not miſtaken in the Worth of his Succeſſor, who received the News of this unexpected good Fortune with an Air that ſhowed him leſs moved with the Benefit, than the Loſs of the Benefactor.

ADVERTISEMENT.

Notice is hereby given, That on Monday *the 11th Inſtant, the* Caſe of the Viſit *comes on, between the Hours of Ten and Eleven, at the* Court of Honour, *where both Perſons are to attend; the meeting there not being to be underſtood as a Viſit, and the Right of the next Viſit being then to be wholly ſettled, according to the Prayer of the Plaintiff.*

ERRATA in the laſt: *Col.* 1. *Line* 62. *dele* off. *Col.* 2. *Line* 45. *for* his Liking, *read* match it.

Advertiſements.

A Large Houſe to be lett, with two Gardens, Coach-Houſe and Stable, in Angel-Court upon Snow-hill, very well faſh'd and wainſcoted. Enquire at the next Door.

ALL Sorts of fine Silks and Mercery Goods for Blank Lottery Tickets, at 7 l. 5 s. a Ticket, and ſold as cheap as for Specie, at the Eagle and Child on Ludgate-Hill, over-againſt the Old-Baily.

AT the GREAT WHEAT-SHEAF painted upon a Copper Plate, next the Bell-Savage Inn upon Ludgate-Hill, is ſold all Sorts of rich Foreign Silks, with Gold and Silver Brocades. Likewiſe Plain and Flower'd Velvets for Gowns and Petticoats, and Coach Linings; with all Sorts of Silk Morning-Gowns, for Blank Lottery Tickets, at as high a Price as any Perſon ſhall give for them, and the abovemſaid Goods as cheap as for Specie.

ALL Sorts of fine Silks and Mercery Goods, ſold at very reaſonable Rates, at the Naked-Boy and Wool-Pack next Door to the Corner of Ludgate-Hill in the Old-Baily, by Tho. Wells and James Tucker, that lived lately with Mr. Sandys. Merchants and others may be furniſhed with long Ells, Bays and Shalloons, &c. by Wholeſale.

A Catalogue of the Remainder of a curious Collection of Pictures, left by Thomas Raveſcroft Eſq; deceaſed, and the Collection which his deceas'd Son left at Florence, now brought to England, and will be ſold by Auction next Door to the Three Tun Tavern in Sandois-ſtreet, that Side towards St. Martin's-lane, on Wedneſday next the 13th Inſtant, at Ten in the Morning. The Pictures to be viewed next Monday and Tueſday at the Place of Sale, and Catalogues had gratis. The Collection conſiſts of ſeveral eminent Italian and Dutch Maſters.

THis is to give Notice, That the Metzotinto Prints, by John Simmons, in whole Lengths, of the Four Indian Kings, that are done from the Original Pictures drawn by John Vereſt, which Her Majeſty has at Her Palace at Kenſington, are now to be delivered out to Subſcribers, and ſold at the Rainbow and Dove the Corner of Ivy-Bridge in the Strand, and the Printſellers in London and Weſtminſter.

AT Mrs. Mottley's India-Houſe at the Two Green Caniſters on the Pavement in St. Martin's-lane near Charing-croſs, all Sorts of Indian Goods, Laquer'd Ware, China, Fans, Screens, Pictures, &c. with Hollands, Muſlins, Cambricks, fine embroider'd and plain ſhort Aprons, and divers other Things, to be diſpoſed of for Blank Lottery Tickets, at 7 l. 5 s. each, and the Goods as cheap as for Specie

*** Juſt publiſh'd for the Month of October, Atlas Geographus, or a compleat Syſtem of Geography, Ancient and Modern; which finiſhes all Europe, (except Great Britain and Ireland) with a good Frontiſpiece, large Index, Subſcribers Names, &c. The whole bound up in 2 Vol. in which is about 100 new Maps, Cuts, Sanſon's Tables, &c. The next Month begins Aſia, in which will be about 50 new Maps, Cuts, and Tables, and ſhall all be contain'd in one Vol. Printed by John Nutt in the Savoy, and ſold by J. Morphew near Stationers-Hall: Where may be had compleat Sets for Europe, or any odd Months. Note, Thoſe that deſire it, may have the whole compleat, with the Maps coloured, and divided into Provinces, &c. at Mr. Moll's over againſt Devereux-Court without Temple-Bar, who engrav'd the modern Maps for this, and for Aſia, Africa, and America, that are to come. The Colouring is 2 s. 6 d.

ALL Perſons who for themſelves or Friends, having red and grey Hairs, would have 'em dy'd and turn'd black or dark-brown Colour, will find entire Satisfaction, as a great many have already, in the Uſe of a clear Water found out by Mr. Michon, and is to be ſold at the ſaid Mr. Michon's, Goldſmith, at the Crown and Pearl in Grafton-ſtreet; at P. Varenne's, Bookſeller, at Seneca's-Head near Somerſet-Houſe in the Strand; at the Rainbow Coffee-houſe beyond the Royal-Exchange in Cornhil; at Hen. Ribottean's at the Crown over-againſt Exeter-Exchange in the Strand; and A. Bell at the Croſs-Keys and Bible in Cornhil.

** Juſt publiſh'd, An Account of the late Proceedings in the Council of the Royal Society, in order to remove from Greſham-College into Crane-Court in Fleetſtreet. In a Letter to a Friend. Sold by J. Morphew near Stationers-hall.

AT the Inſurance Office at the Flower-de-Luce near Lyon's-Inn the Back-Side of St. Clements, all Perſons that have inſured in other Offices upon Marriage in three Months, or more, may inſure the ſame Perſons Marriage in Two Months; for which Purpoſe Two Books will be open'd on Tueſday next the 12th Inſtant, wherein the 1ſt 150 are allowed to marry in 2 Kalendar Months after their Entrance, the 2d 150 in 3 Kalendar Months, the 3d 150 in 4 Kalendar Months, and ſo to continue, by a Weekly Dividend of 1000 l. if full. Thoſe that enter in the 5 s. Policy Book to pay 10 s. Weekly after the 12th of Feb. next; and thoſe in the 2 s. 6 d. Policy Book 5 s. Weekly till their own Claim become due. There is at the ſame Place Two Books already opened for Inſurance on Marriage by Way of Dividend, which meets with great Encouragement. Alſo Two more, one for inſuring on the Birth of a Child 500 l. the other 250 l. if full; if not, a proportionable Sum by Way of Claims. Propoſals may be had at large for all at the Office.

INſurance on Marriage; the firſt Society without Loſs, conſiſting of 2100 Members, who upon paying 5 s. for Policy and Stamps, and 5 s. towards the firſt Claim, which, when full, will entitle every one that has a Claim to 500 l. having had great Succeſs, by Reaſon of its providing for ſuch as diſcontinue paying their Claims; Notice is hereby given, That a 2d Society of 2100 Members, upon paying 2 s. 6 d. for Policy and Stamps, and 2 s. 6 d. towards the firſt Claim, will, when full, entitle every one that has a Claim to 250 l. otherwiſe in Proportion to the Number of Subſcribers, was opened on Tueſday the 5th of this Inſtant, at their Office in the Little Piazza, Covent-Garden, where Propoſals at large are to be had Gratis, and Subſcriptions are taken in. Any Perſon may inſure in both Societies: And it will be the Advantage of any that deſign to enter to do it forthwith, to prevent others inſuring on them. N. B. At the ſame Place is a 3d Society, for the Payment of 1 s. to receive 100 l.

MRs. Symmons's Sale of Goods, which is ſtill to be ſeen at the Naked-Boy and Coat in Henrietta-ſtreet, Covent-Garden, not being quite full, the Drawing is deferred to the 15th Inſtant, and ſhall then be performed to the Satisfaction of all the Adventurers. Tickets are to be had at the Place above-mentioned; Mr. Lillie's the Corner of Beaufort-Buildings, at the Duke of Marlborough's-Head in Fleetſtreet, and all the Places mentioned in the Propoſals.

Sold by *John Morphew* near *Stationers-Hall*; where Advertiſements are taken in.